



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE NAMES NEW SAN ANTONIO SPECIAL AGENT-IN-CHARGE *22-year law enforcement veteran Alonzo R. Pena to oversee investigations*

SAN ANTONIO—Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Michael A. Garcia today named Alonzo R. Pena as Special Agent-in-Charge (SAC) of the ICE's San Antonio Office of Investigations.

Pena, who previously served in Houston as the ICE associate special agent-in-charge, will oversee all ICE investigation operations in the San Antonio SAC District.

The San Antonio office is the sixth-largest ICE investigations office in the nation, which includes the following cities in addition to San Antonio: Austin, Brownsville, Del Rio, Eagle Pass, Harlingen and Laredo. The area of responsibility encompasses 58 counties in south and central Texas, including the western and southern Federal Judicial Districts, and more than 500 miles of international border between the U.S. and Mexico.

"I look forward to directing ICE's criminal investigation efforts in south and central Texas," said Pena. "Our San Antonio office has an extensive history of working to make our local communities safer. We'll continue that service to the community by partnering with all law enforcement agencies."

His office's top investigation priorities include anti-terrorism, criminal alien arrests, the smuggling of humans, narcotics, weapons and contraband; money laundering, human trafficking, child pornography, and financial crimes.

Pena began his law enforcement career in 1982 as a Texas State Trooper in Alice, Texas. Two years later he accepted a position as a special agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in Santa Ana, Calif. After several years with ATF in Santa Ana, he changed federal agencies and relocated back to Texas for a position as a special agent with the U.S. Customs Service in Corpus Christi.

While in Corpus Christi, he was promoted to senior special agent and then to a group supervisor. He stayed there until 1995, when he was promoted to resident agent-in-charge in Brownsville, Texas.

During a three-month detail to the former U.S. Customs Service's headquarters in January 1998, he also served as assistant director for that agency's Smuggling Division. In 1999, he was selected as the associate SAC for El Paso. Soon afterward he was transferred to Houston to work as associate SAC, and then served as the acting SAC for more than a year.

A native of Falfurrias, Texas, Pena earned his bachelor's degree from Pan American University in Edinburg, Texas. He also completed the U.S. Customs Service Graduate School of Management, National-Louis University, advanced executive leadership training course from the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Va., and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

He is a member of several law enforcement task forces and associations including the Southern District U.S. Attorney's Anti-Terrorism Task Force, the Texas Sheriffs' Association, and the Federal Executive Institute Alumni Association. He is currently the president of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Hispanic Agents Association (ICEHAA) and a volunteer member of the Make-a-Wish Foundation of the Texas Gulf Coast.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). ICE seeks to prevent acts of terrorism by targeting the people, money and materials that support terror and criminal networks.